Remarks

The Examiner is thanked for the Official Office Action dated May 8, 2002. The remarks to follow are intended to be fully responsive thereto.

The Specification was amended to on page 8, lines 29-30 to remove reference to the "Brewster incidence". No new matter was added.

Applicant has attached a copy of the Preliminary Amendment filed on January 16, 2001 along with a copy of the date-stamped post card showing that the Preliminary Amendment was filed on January 16, 2001.

Claim 1 was amended to overcome inconsistencies in terminology and avoid objections based improper antecedent basis. The amendment is not intended to limit the scope of the claimed invention as originally filed.

The Examiner objected to claims 4-11 for as being in improper form. The Examiner asserts that claims 4-11 are multiple dependent claims depending from other multiple dependent claims. On January 16, 2001, Applicant filed a Preliminary Amendment with the application correcting the multiple dependency issue. Applicant has attached a copy of the Preliminary Amendment filed on January 16, 2001. Based on the Preliminary Amendment, Applicant believes that claims 4-11 are in correct form, thus rendering the Examiner's objection moot.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-11 under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Asakura et al. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Asakura fails to disclose an "insert ...at least partly implanted into a thickness e of the glazing...[where the insert is] formed of a material that substantially reflects the beam (F1)..., wherein said beam travels from said means for emitting to said one face of the glazing without passing

through said insert" Rather, Asakura discloses a light emitting diode 50 that emits a beam **which passes through an insert.** The insert in Asakura is a combination of an entrance hologram 30 and an exit hologram 40. The beam in Asakura passes through entrance hologram prior to reflecting off the glazing. The present application utilizes a first diode that emits a light beam intended to be reflected by the front face of the glazing. The insert reflects the beam between the surface of the windscreen and that of the insert. The beam travels from the emitting source to the glazing face without first penetrating through the insert. See page 8, line 11 to page 9, line 16. Because the prior art allows the beam to penetrate the insert before reaching the glazing face, any rejection under 35 USC § 102 is improper.

It is believed that claims 1-11 define the invention over the prior art and notice that effect is warranted. Should the Examiner believe further discussion regarding the above claim language would expedite prosecution they are invited to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: 7/25/02

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

CHENG et al. Group Art Unit: 2882

Application No.: 09/743,717 Examiner: Song, K.

Filed: March 13, 2001 Attorney Dkt. No.: 01200.452

Title: DEVICE FOR DETECTING A PARAMETER ASSOCIATED WITH THE STATE OF A VEHICLE, ESPECIALLY AN AUTOMOBILE

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APPENDIX OF AMENDMENTS

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification on page 8, lines 27 to page 9, line 3 as follows:

In the example described, the incidences of the beams F1 and F2 on the front and rear faces of the windscreen are above the limit incidence [(called Brewster incidence)] for which the beams are practically totally reflected be the faces of the windscreen, in the absence of humidity (misting and water droplets). In contrast, a part of these beams is lost by transmission towards the passenger compartment and/or the outside of the vehicle, in the presence of drops of water or of misting on the faces, and the quantity of light reflected and received by the receiving diode R reduces with the quantity of water on the windscreen.

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) Device for detecting a parameter representative of a state associated with [the] a glazing of a motor vehicle including a module (20), [further consisting] comprising:

[- of] means (E1) for emitting at least one electromagnetic beam (F1) towards one face (AV) of the glazing[, and];

[- of] means (R) for receiving at least a part of the beam returned by said face[,]; and

[characterized in that the module includes] at least one insert (I1, I2) at least partly implanted into [the] a thickness e of the glazing, provided with a surface (S1, S2; S11) substantially opposite [the] said face (AV, AR), said surface formed of a material that substantially reflects [and substantially reflecting to] the beam (F1), in such a way that the beam, from emission to reception, undergoes a plurality of reflections in the thickness of the glazing, between the surface (S1, S2; S11) of the insert (I1) and the face (AV, AR) of the glazing, wherein said beam follows a path from said means for emitting to said one face of the glazing without passing through said insert.

Please add new claims 12 and 13 as follows:

12. Device for detecting a parameter representative of a state associated with [the] a glazing of a motor vehicle including a module (20), comprising:

at least two means (E1, E2) for emitting at least two electromagnetic beam (F1) towards one face (AV) of the glazing;

means (R) for receiving at least a part of the beam returned by said face; and

at least one insert (I1, I2) at least partly implanted into a thickness e of the glazing, provided with a surface (S1, S2; S11) substantially opposite said face (AV, AR), said surface formed of a material that substantially reflects the beam (F1), in such a way that the beam, from emission to reception, undergoes a plurality of reflections in the thickness of the glazing, between the surface (S1, S2; S11) of the insert (I1) and the face (AV, AR) of the glazing, wherein said beam follows a path from said means for emitting to said one face of the glazing without passing through said insert.

13. Device for detecting a parameter representative of a state associated with [the] a glazing of a motor vehicle including a module (20), comprising:

means (E1, E2) for emitting at least one electromagnetic beam (F1) towards one face (AV) of the glazing, wherein said means for emitting is disposed within said glazing;

means (R) for receiving at least a part of the beam returned by said face; and

at least one insert (I1, I2) at least partly implanted into a thickness e of the glazing, provided with a surface (S1, S2; S11) substantially opposite said face (AV,

AR), said surface formed of a material that substantially reflects the beam (F1), in such a way that the beam, from emission to reception, undergoes a plurality of reflections in the thickness of the glazing, between the surface (S1, S2; S11) of the insert (I1) and the face (AV, AR) of the glazing, wherein said beam follows a path from said means for emitting to said one face of the glazing without passing through said insert.